



Chairperson Vice-Chair

**DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 2009**

The meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, September 17, 2009, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Rev. Ronald L. Griffin
Mohamed Okdie
Toney Stewart **(ABS)**
Adela Rivera
Rev Jim Holley

Sgt. Robert Jackson
Sgt. Oscar Garza
Sgt. David Moore
PO Lecretia Wright

Department Personnel Present

Chief Warren Evans
DC James Tolbert
2nd DC John Roach
Cmdr. Brian Stair
Cmdr. Benjamin Lee
Cmdr. Dwayne Love
Lt. Dwayne Blackmon
Lt. Eric Jones
Sgt. Michael Dailey
Sgt. Daran Carey
PO Sophia Nelms

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director **(ABS)**
Celia Banks-Washington, Attorney/Supervising Inv.
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator
Lt. Lashinda Houser, Police Personnel
Lt. Daniel Allen
Leslie J. Griffin, Community Affairs Coordinator
PO Kent Cooper

OTHERS PRESENT

Marc Deldin
Tijuana Morris

Edward Moore
Ron Scott

Bernice Smith
Jose Armstrong, Jr.

Charles White

RECORDERS

PO Robert Gibson

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Griffin called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:07 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **Thursday, September 17, 2009**

MOTION: **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Agenda.

SECOND: **Comm. Rivera** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Thursday, September 3, 2009**

MOTION: **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Minutes.

SECOND: **Comm. Rivera** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Chairperson Griffin stated the comments made by him on page six (6) needs to be corrected. It should state "a call came in stating officers fired upon, and the second call stated that a black male was shooting a gun in the neighborhood and that a description was given and he ran away and the officers chased him down and arrested him".

Let it be noted that as he was running away, he put in hands in the waist of his pants and the officer would have been within their rights to fire upon him. Instead he tried to get rid of the weapon as he was running.

• **Thursday, September 10, 2009**

MOTION: Comm. Okdie made the motion to approve the Minutes with the corrections and revisions.

SECOND: Comm. Rivera seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT

1. CHAIRPERSON

2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

2009 - Weekly Count of Complaints:

This Week

Year to Date



2008 - Weekly Count of Complaints:

- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of **1,115** active investigations, of which **789** of those are for 2009. A total of **1,293** investigations have been closed since January 1, 2009.

TOTAL WEEKLY ALLEGATIONS & COMMAND

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS									Total
CCR	W/E 09/16/09	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Entry	Procedure	Property	Search	Service	Allegations
1	CENTRAL DISTRICT	2	2				2				6
3	EASTERN DISTRICT		2				2				4
2	NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT		2				3			1	6
9	NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT3	3	10	2			9			1	25
3	SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT		2							2	4
2	GANG ENFORCEMENT UNIT			2			2				4
1	CHIEF OF POLICE		1				1				2
3	COMMUNICATION OPS SECTION		3							1	4
3	NARCOTICS DIVISION	1					3		1		5
1	RECORDS/IDENT SECTION		2				2				4
1	TACTICAL SERVICES SECTION			1							1
1	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT UNIT						1				1
10	UNKNOWN COMMAND	1	3	1	1		7	1		2	16
1	LEGAL ADVISORS SECTION		1	1			1				3
1	10TH PRECINCT			2			2				4
2	12TH PRECINCT		1						2		3
1	ACADEMY (STUDENT)		1				1				2
45		7	30	9	1		36	1	3	7	94

5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

September 17, 2009

Volume 5, Issue 38

Detroit Police Department

Report to the Board of Police Commissioners



Special Points of Interest:

• Next meeting:

Thursday, September 24, 2009

@ 3:00 P.M.

Detroit Police Department
1300 Beaubien #328-A
Detroit, Michigan 48226

“Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships”

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Domestic Violence

On September 8, 2009, officers of the Eastern District responded to the 15000 block of Rochelle on “Person with a Weapon” and a subject was arrested. As a result of the investigation conducted by members of Domestic Violence, the subject was charged with 2 counts of “Domestic Violence, Larceny, and Breaking & Entering-Illegal Entry (Without Owner’s Permission).”

Inside this issue:

Narcotics/Gang Enforcement 1

Domestic Violence 1

Eastern District 2

Southwestern District 2

Northeastern District 2

Tenth Precinct 2

Northwestern District 2

Engaging the Community

Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the District/Precinct stations in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Mini/Sub-Stations to make reports.

		<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
		1300 Beaubien	24 Hours	596-5100
		20500 Conant	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	892-5456
		7737 Kercheval	* 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.	628-2121
		19810 Grand River	* 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	870-0649
		13530 Lesure	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	596-5300
		2575 S. Schaefer	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	297-9423
		20 Atwater	24 Hours	237-2850
		13206 E. Jefferson	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	821-5851
		22101 Moross (St. John Hospital)	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	343-7506
		14700 Mack	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	852-4046

* Mini-Stations– Monday –Friday

September 17, 2009

Police / Community Intervention

Page 1

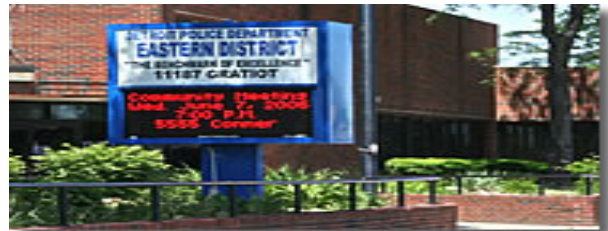
Southwestern District

On September 10, 2009, officers of the Southwestern District responded to the 13000 block of Cherrylawn on a "Person Firing Shots." As a result of the officers quick response and investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with "Assault with Intent to Commit Murder (6-counts), Great Bodily Harm (6-counts), Felonious Assault (6-counts), Discharge of a Firearm into a Building, Felony Firearm, and Habitual 3rd.



Northeastern District

On September 12, 2009, officers of the Northeastern District responded to the 4000 block of East Outer Drive on a "Person with a Weapon." as a result of the officers quick response, a subject was arrested and charged with "Felon in Possession, Carrying a Concealed Weapon, Felony Firearm, and Habitual 2nd." a weapon was recovered.



Tenth Precinct

On September 9, 2009, while on routine patrol in the area of Northfield and Tireman, officers of the Tenth Precinct investigated a subject for a traffic violation. As a result of their investigation, the subject was arrested and charged with "Assault with Intent to Commit Murder (2-counts), Assault of a Police Officer (2-counts), Felon in Possession, and Felony Firearm.



Northwestern District

On September 7, 2009, officers of the Northwestern District responded to the area of Grand River and St. Mary's on a "Robbery Armed" in progress. Subsequent to their investigation, three subjects were detained, and charged with "Robbery Armed."

Chief Evans stated Lt. Blackmon of Homicide will be giving a presentation. He mentioned when you listen to this presentation to please understand that the homicides speak for themselves. But also think about the thousand of people who were shot and didn't die. He stated that the guns in this City are a significant problem and they are working on initiatives to get those guns off the street. He has engaged the community to be a part of this initiative.

Lt. Blackmon gave an overview of the Homicides stats, squads, cold cases and task forces.

SEE ATTACHMENTS

Comm. Holley stated that he applauds the Lieutenant for involving the Chaplin's and asked how often do they make contact with the victim's family.

Lt. Blackmon stated this is the initiative phase, and going forward they will call them around the anniversary date and if the case is older than two years, they will make frequent contact.

Comm. Holley asked the Lieutenant to think about having them make contact every two months.

Lt. Blackmon stated yes, sir.

Comm. Holley asked what constitutes a homicide by definition.

Lt. Blackmon stated it say "taking the life of another person".

Comm. Holley asked is this the definition throughout the country.

Lt. Blackmon stated yes, sir.

Comm. Holley stated that most of the City residents don't know the definition of homicide. He then asked how many detectives are in homicide.

Lt. Blackmon stated there are 50 detectives, only 38 of them handle cases.

Comm. Holley asked to know how the numbers compare to other cities the size of Detroit.

Lt. Blackmon stated the national average of cases per investigator is seven (7). His investigators have between 10 and 13 cases.

Comm. Holley stated on the national level, 60 percent (%) of the cases are solved compare to 30 percent (%) here. He asked if the department has the ability to give rewards to citizens for information that leads to an arrest.

Lt. Blackmon stated yes, 1-800 speak-up which is Crime Stoppers.

Comm. Holley asked is that the department.

Lt. Blackmon stated no, it is a private entity and the department works with them.

Comm. Holley asked if the department will be getting the Crime Lab back.

Lt. Blackmon stated he can't answer that.

Chief Evans stated the department's homicide case load is twice of any other city case load and the closure rate is about half. He stated the department doesn't have enough people in any of the departments and they are challenged to do more with less.

Comm. Okdie asked if the show 48 Hours still highlights some of Detroit's cold cases.

Lt. Blackmon stated yes, sir.

Comm. Okdie asked if it financially benefits the city.

Lt. Blackmon stated he isn't sure, but will try to get him an answer.

Chairperson Griffin asked one of the Chaplains to speak about what takes place when they go to victim's home.

DC Chaplain C. Finley stated she goes to most of the scenes that involves children and give support to the victim's family. It allows the family to grieve and they are a big access to the department and the families.

Chairperson Griffin asked how she deals with the victims that involve adults.

DC Chaplain C. Finley stated once the family understands they are a not the police, then there is a welcome to have a friendly person to talk to.

Chairperson Griffin stated he is an active Wayne County Chaplain and at one time, two divisions existed where one dealt with the family and the other dealt with the officers. He asked if DPD Chaplain did both.

DC Chaplain C. Finley stated they do both.

Chairperson Griffin asked if they deal with those who are incarcerated.

DC Chaplain C. Finley stated yes, at the district.

Chairperson Griffin asked to know where the Chaplain's funding come from.

DC Chaplin C. Finley stated they have an interface and memorial breakfast, gospel concert and receive donations from private companies.

Comm. Holley asked if the other Chaplains around the country are funded the same way.

DC Chaplin C. Finley stated in some areas they receive pay or stipend.

Comm. Holley asked the Chief if they can get a car to get around in.

Chief Evans stated the department needs more scout and the city is broke but he has tried to find foundation money to help assist the department.

Comm. Holley stated that the Chaplains volunteer their time and provide their own uniforms.

DC Chaplin C. Finley stated the uniforms come from the department.

Comm. Holley asked if the grant department can get the Chaplains a grant to offset their cost.

Chief Evans stated they are committed to trying.

Chairperson Griffin stated that Charlie McDuff ran an article talking about the department cases and closure rate. He asked the Chief regarding staffing what are some of the things that he can do or want him to do to help close some of the cases.

Chief Evans stated if he could give homicides some additional investigators they will be able to close more cases. If he had the discretion to place homicide investigators instead of them being there by seniority he will improve the efficiency of that unit.

The second part is prevention. He stated that homicide doesn't prevent, they only bring closure to cases. The department has to find ways to be proactive.

Comm. Holley stated he agrees with the Chief, but some laws have to be changed that gives criminals more jail time. Otherwise there are no serious consequences for their actions.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

7. NEW BUSINESS

1. GRANTS:

1. REQUEST TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM THE BEN ROETHLISBERGER FOUNDATION TO PURCHASE A CANINE FOR THE DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT CANINE UNIT

The Ben Roethlisberger Foundation has announced that they are accepting applications for their Grant from police and fire departments' canine units throughout the US. This program will allow the canine units to purchase dogs and dog safety vests. The amount of the grant is still to be determined.

The Detroit Police Department's Canine Unit, has been provided with the application instructions and is currently developing a program in compliance with the guidelines of the grant. In the event that approval is granted to apply and the award is received, Sergeant Oscar Garza, of the Canine Unit, would serve as the project director. **The deadline for this application is September 18, 2009.**

Upon your approval, the Detroit City Council will be requested to adopt a resolution supporting this application.

MOTION: Comm. Okdie made the motion to approve the Grant.

SECOND: Comm. Holley seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

8. OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL: MS DIONA ROSU

MOTION: Comm. Holley made the motion to approve the Resolution.

SECOND: Comm. Rivera seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 24, 2009
Police Headquarters
1300 Beaubien Rm. 328-A
Detroit, MI 48226

10. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

R. Scott stated he disagrees with Comm. Holley because incarceration never solves anything. He stated there needs to be a transformation of the people.

He mentioned once a member of the police department shoots someone, there is not a lot of information the family can get and his organization works closely with most of these families.

Comm. Okdie stated he agrees that jail isn't the answer. He also doesn't believe that more officers on the street will equate to lesser crime. He believes that crime has a direct relationship to the economy. When the economy is bad crime goes up, when the economy is good crime goes down. Sooner or later everyone has to take a look at those things that affect crime.

R. Scott stated if the department is going to get 700 more officers they need to be of quality.

Chairperson Griffin stated there is a lost of focus of generations of families level. There is dysfunction at home and this condition now is a manifestation of it. He stated economics alone doesn't generate crime. It is going to take a change in paradigm.

He stated today, Comm. Holley brought forth a resolution that this Board is studying. It will be finalized and brought before this Board in about a week that deals with the issues of quality of the applicants before they are put on the streets. He stated lies are just lies and we as citizens have to make the change. The way to make that change is one step at a time.

He stated as a citizen he would like to get these youths on the front end, and let them know that they have choices as he tries to help them. If they don't listen to the message and mess up, then he wants them off of the streets. Then they have to look at how to rehabilitate these youths. He stated prisons or jails don't rehabilitate anyone. He stated he has a sizeable number of ex-cons at his church and it was something inside of them that said they don't want to go back. He agrees that this helps if they could find them a job, home within a safe neighborhood. If not, they go back to jail and the cycle starts all over again.

He stated in the case of the young man who was going around shooting, the young man that he was riding the bike with probably looked about 13 or 14. The guardians of those individuals swore on the stack of bibles that they were just riding their bikes and nobody has a gun. When they found the gun he returned as a concerned pastor. He then asked them who is the relative of the 13 or 14 year old and a lady responded that is her nephew. He state to her that she doesn't know who her nephew is hanging with. He stated everyone has to pitch in on this.

He mentioned that the community was the reason they were able to arrest him because they told the police where to find them.

T. Morris stated if a citizen has a problem with an officer, a thorough investigation needs to be done and that citizen needs to know who that officer is and the findings in a timely manner.

B. Smith asked the Chief if the towing issued has been resolved.

Chief Evans stated this is a massive problem and there are ongoing investigations from Internal Affairs. There were inspections of tow yards. They are working on it as is the Towing Task Force. He believes that part of the ongoing problem is that the citizens aren't being called when their stolen car is recovered for economic reasons.

B. Smith asked if the department still has a Gang Squad.

Chief Evans stated yes.

B. Smith asked is there any special attention being given to the 85-year old man that continues to be harassed.

Chief Evans stated the department is doing periodic checks on him.

B. Smith stated for them to continue doing a wonderful job.

C. White stated to the Chief that the last time he was here, an officer was assigned to him. He wanted to know who his car was sold to.

Chief Evans stated he doesn't know off hand but he can find out.

C. White stated the officer attempted to interrogate him rather than investigate his complaint. He stated the officer asked him about everything other than what happened to his car.

He stated from doing his own investigating, Boulevard and Trumbull owns several companies under different names. He recommends that the Chief should ask the public if he wants to know about this tow companies because they deal with them on a daily basis. He wants some answers.

J. Armstrong asked if members of the police department are required to know the code of ethics. He stated some are liars and cheaters because he is a victim.

He stated B&G took his car while being assisted by a police officer. He asked the officer why is his car being taken and the officer's response was because it is illegally parked. He asked why wasn't a sticker put on it if it was illegally parked and received no answer. They kept his car for a long period of time and the

storage fees were around \$900. After getting some help from the Eastern District his car was returned but the engine had been vandalized.

Chairperson Griffin stated within 30 days, this Board will be addressing all concerns regarding the towing.

J. Armstrong stated that City Council assisted him in this matter, but most of the members from the department interrogated him and this need to stop.

M. Deldin stated in to response to Mr. White's allegations that his vehicle went to auction because it was authorized to go to auction. As a favor, B&T bought his vehicle back and returned it to Mr. White.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/rb